49.

A True

ACCOUNT OF THE Lord Berkley's Burning of the Town of DIEP,

On the 13*th* of *July*, 1694. With the Particulars of every days Tranſaction.

Licenſed according to Order.

I Give you a plain Account of our Proceedings, at St. *Hellins*, *June* 20*th*. The Swiftſure, Greenwich and Speedwell Fireſhips, went a Cruiſing; The Bomb-ſhips being Thirteen in number, came from *Spithead*; The Ruport run a Ground on the Weſt part of the Horſe, but was got off with little damage: Then we went and Encampt in the Iſle of *Wight*, to refreſh our Men.

June 28. Off from *Diſnoſe*, in the Morning at Five, a Signal was made for the Fleet to Unmoor, ſo ſtood off till Noon: In the Evening we made Sail for the Coaſt of *France*.

June 30. Several Ships wereſent to Chaſe, both to Windward and Leeward; the Neptune Fore-maſt was blown away: The aforeſaid Ships came in, and brought two or three *Danes* with them; In the Evening we ſaw Land, but could not make it, ſo we tackt off to the Norward.

July 1*ſt*. *Beache-head*, the Neptune mended her Maſt.

July 2*d*. The Weather being hard, the Victuallers and ſmall Veſſels left the Fleet, and bore away for the *Engliſh* ſhore, and one of our Anchors was loſt in the ſaid Storm.

July 3*d*. Near *Ramſey-Marſh* we weighed Anchor, and bore away toward the *Engliſh* Coaſt Eaſtward.

July 4*th*. *Dungeneſs Light-houſe*, Moderate Weather.

July

July 6th. The whole Fleet ſtood off for the Coaſt of *France*: Again, the Garland and Goodwin Priſe came from Cruiſing, and brought in two *French* Fiſher Boats; Then we Anchored off from *Eaſt-Staples* to the Weſt End off *Valery.*

July 7th. Stormy Weather near the Eaſt Cliſt of *Treport.*

July 8th. Before *Deip* this Morning, Three Bomb Veſſels weighed and ſtood in near the Shore; the Saphire and the Garland did the like, and the reſt of the Bomb Veſſels plyed to the Wind-ward.

July 9th. For theſe three Days the Wind blew ſo hard that ſeveral Veſſels were drove from their Anchors, ſo they were forc'd to ply to the Wind-ward under their low Sails; and little Buſineſs could be done.

July 11th. Moderate Weather; The Bomb Veſſels were ordered in near the Shore, they play'd their Bombs on both ſides.

July 12th. This Morning we play'd our Bombs briskly, from Eight in the Morning till Nine at Night, which did great Execution on the Town; Then we fir'd two Carcaſes, which ſet the Eaſt End on Fire, about Eleven we ſent in a Machine Veſſel, which did good Service. The Fire has continued all Night Weſtward, ſo that the whole Town is conſumed, hardly any part left but what is Burnt and Bomb'd.

The Town was at leaſt a Mile long, it had two or three Churches, an old Caſtle, a Monaſtery, or ſuch like; a Fort and four or five ſmall Batteries. To the beſt I could ſee or learn, we received little or no Damage on our ſide, I do not underſtand that we have above five or ſix Men in all this Action that were kill'd or wounded, although they Play'd their Bombs and Cannons half the Day; And during this continual Firing, a Shell fell in one of our Bomb-Veſſels, and burſt upon our Decks, but our Men had time to ſave themſelves by Swimming, and were all ſaved, nor was the Veſſel much damaged. This Sir, is as near as poſſible my weak Capacity could comprehend to be the real Truth, and I hope very ſpeedily to gratifie you with more Welcome News, and all others that are Well-wiſhers to their King and Country.

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